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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/091 W
----------211332Z 023472 /46
R 211209Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0623
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2234

USUN FOR LOWENSTEIN

E.O.QQYTWC GDS
TAGS: SHUM PFOR PO
SUBJECT: ALLARD LOWENSTEIN CONVERSATION WITH MARIO SOARES:
HUMAN RIGHTS

REF: LISBON 2066

1. ALLARD LOWENSTEIN, CHIEF OF THE US DELEGATION TO THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, MET WITH MARIO SOARES, AN OLD FRIEND, ON MARCH 19. CONVERSATION WAS EXTREMELY CORDIAL AND BOTH MEN MADE STATEMENTS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY ABOUT THE OTHER TO TV REPORTER FOLLOWING MEETING.

2. LOWENSTEIN TOLD SOARES HE FELT PORTUGAL HAD UNIQUE CREDENTIALS TO PLAY A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. THE COUNTRY HAD FREED ITSELF OF A RIGHTIST DICTATORSHIP AND HAD AVOIDED A NEW FORM OF OPPRESSION FROM THE LEFT. THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF WAS HIGLY RESPECTED IN INTERNATIONAL CIRCLES AS A STAUNCH HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCATE.
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3. SOARES ASSURED LOWENSTEIN THAT THE GOP AND HE PERSONALLY FULLY SUPPORT PRESIDENT CARTER'S INITIATIVES IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. SOARES HAD ALREADY GIVEN THOUGHT TO WAYS IN WHICH HE COULD BE HELPFUL AND WOULD WELCOME SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM LOWENSTEIN. AS IMMEDIATE STEPS, HE HAD ALREADY INVITED ANDREI AMALRIK TO VISIT

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PORTUGAL AND INTENDED SHORTLY TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. HE NOTED THE ISRAELI LABOR PARTY
HAD BEEN PUSHING GOP FOR AMBASSADORIAL EXCHANGE PRIOR TO
THEIR ELECTIONS. SOARES WISHED TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THE
ISRAELI LABOR PARTY, BUT HE ALSO THOUGHT RECOGNITION OF
ISRAEL WOULD SUPPORT SOME OF THE INITIATIVES THE US HAD
TAKEN IN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT
WOULD INDICATE AN EMPHATIC REVERSAL OF THE DISASTROUS
PORTUGUESE VOTE ON THE ZIONISM RESOLUTION LAST YEAR.
LOWENSTEIN REPLIED THAT BOTH OF THESE INITIATIVES WOULD BE
OF ASSISTANCE. ISRAELIRECOGNITION WOULD BE IN PARTI-
CULAR LEND SUPPORT TO THE EFFORT TO SEPARATE THE ZIONISM
APARTHEID ISSUES.

4. LOWENSTEIN SUGGESTED THAT AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE
PROGRESS MADE AT THE RECENT GENEVA CONFERENCE, THE GOP
COORDINATE ITS POSITION WITH USG PRIOR TO FORTHCOMING ECOSOC
CONFERENCE. USG WOULD SPECIFICALLY APPRECIATE SUPPORT ON
ZIONISM, APARTHEID, AND 1503 ISSUES. SOARES WAS PERSONALLY
UNFAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS OF THESE ISSUES
BUT TOLD LOWENSTEIN GOP WOULD BE FULLY SUPPORTIVE.
RECALLING HIS OLD FRIENDSHIP WITH LOWENSTEIN, HE AGAIN SAID
HE WANTED TO BE HELPFUL IN ANY WAY HE COULD.

5. IF DEPT DESIRES US TO FOLLOW UP AT WORKING LEVEL ON
THESE ISSUES, REQUEST APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS.
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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